SUPERSTITIONLIVING

DECEMBER 2020

POSTAL CUSTOMER

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ECRWSS EDDM

190 HOMES SOLD THIS YEAR THRU NOVEMBER! #1 FOR GOLD CANYON SALES!

GORGEOUS IN SUPERSTITION FOOTHILLS!
1925 SF, 4 bdrms, 2 bths, 3 car garage, built in BBQ, FIRPIT! Backing to wash and Superstition Mountain fabulous VIEWS! Private lot and FURNISHED! Loaded with beautiful furniture and lots of upgrades!
$420,000 Call Lori

GOLDEN SPRINGS! KINGS RANCH CONDOS!
WOW! 1055 SF, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 car garage, community pool! Great investment!
$165,000 Call Carol

ADORABLE FURNISHED HOME IN 55+ COMMUNITY OF APACHE VILLAS!
14374 SF, 2 BDRMS, 2 BTHS, 1 car port. New AC in 2019, extra large kitchen, newer appliances, Granite counters and breakfast bar! Mature producnig citrus trees, shed and RV gate! Fenced yard!
$245,000 Call Zach and Shelly!

BEAUTIFUL HERMOSA HILLS!
Newer built in 2016! 1962 sf, 3bdrms 2.5 bths, Custom home on 12,000 sf lot in quiet cul-de-sac! Superstition Mountain views! 18" tile T/O Granite counters, loaded with custom upgrades including cabinets lighting and paint. Solar blinds too! Too much to list!
Call Dawn! $409,000

PERALTA TRAILS BEAUTY!
LOCATION LOCATION LOCATION! Quiet cul-de-sac! 2105 SF, 3 bedrms, 2 baths, office/den 2 car gar.! Open floor plan, sparkling POOL & mountain views! New appliances, one owner home beautifully maintained!
Call Sam $419,900

BEAUTIFUL IN ENTRADA DEL ORO!
WOW! 2244 SF, 3 bdrms, 2 bths Amazing kitchen with granite counters, staggered cabinets! Great room open floor plan, large master suite, 3 car tandem garage! MOUNTAIN VIEWS!
$349,900 Call Erma!

SUPERSTITION FOOTHILLS BEAUTY!
2626 SF, 4 bedrms, 3 bths, den, office! Heated pebble-tec pool & spa, gazebo and water feature. Complete outdoor kitchen! Soaring ceilings, open staircase, rolled Corian counters, 1st floor bedroom, double loft big 3 car garage!
Call Lisa $450,000

FABULOUS PERALTA TRAILS! WOW!
1272 SF, 3 bdrms, 2 bths, 2 car garage! Move in ready for you! lots of upgrades , cul de sac location with fabulous Superstition Mountain Views!
$276,500 Call Sam!

GORGEOUS IN ENTRADA DEL ORO!
3243 SF, 4 bdrms, 3 bths, den/office! 3 car garage! GRAND HOME! 1st floor bedroom, 3 car has epoxy floor, loft, staggered cherry cabinetry with crown molding in kitchen, granite counters and stainless appliances! fabulous back yard with awesome views!
Call Erma $499,000

ENCANTERRA GOLF RESORT HOME!
$200,000 of upgrades! 2299 sf, 2 bdrms, 2.5 bths, den/office, 2 car garage. GORGEOUS YARD!, double rolling glass walls bring outside inside! Gas fireplace, built in BBA, fountain. Inside is loaded with upgrades!
Call Marlene $532,000

INCREDIBLE CUSTOM LUXURY IN PREMIER GATED COMMUNITY!
Gold Canyon Estates, best kept secret in Gold Canyon! 2783 sf, 4 bdrms, 3.5 bths, Granite counters , Ceramic plant and travertine floors and baseboards. Solit Alder doors, designer paiknt and more! Incredible back yard, with all the resort touches! Rooftop deck and so much more! JUST BEAUTIFUL!
Call Dawn $649,900

PRISTINE CUSTOM HOME IN GOLDEN SPRINGS!
NO HOA! 2303 SF, 3 bdrms, 2 bths, 2 car garage with SPARKLING POOL! Split floor plan too! New roof, stone fireplace, recessed lighting, huge family room with bar area and so much more! RV gate ENTERTAINERS DREAM HOME! YOU MUST SEE IT!
Call Zach and Shelly! $432,000

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GORGEOUS CUSTOM SINGLE LEVEL HOME ON A NEAR ACRE IN MESA!

4924 SF, 5 BDRMS, 5.5 BTHS, 3 car gar! POOL SPA AND MUCH MORE! NO HOA! GATED COMMUNITY! Polished Travertine floors, wall of windows shows off the gorgeous resort back yard! VIEWS OF SCARFACE MOUNTAIN! Outdoor kitchen, Jacuzzi and putting green! JUST TOO MUCH TO LIST IT ALL!

$1,100,000 call Zach and Shelly!

GORGEOUS HOME IN SUPERSTITION FOOTHILLS! POOL & VIEWS!

2000 SF, 2 bdrms+ office (or 3rd bedroom with french doors! BIG 3 CAR GARAGE! Open floor plan!, FURNISHED, sparkling pool and extended patio! Home backs to private wash area! Split bedrooms and more! Staggered Maple cabinetry, Gas fireplace inside, and Kive fireplace outside!, Community also has pool, spa and park!

Call Lori $415,000

EXQUISITE SEMI CUSTOM IN SUPERSTITION FOOTHILLS! POOL & VIEWS!

WOW! Rare opportunity to own this fabulous property! Bright open floor plan, 2850 sf, 3 bdrms, 2.5 bths, office/den and it is loaded with custom features! Ralph Loren suede painting throughout!, 21 " diagonal set tile floors, newer solid wood staggered cabinetry, Veined slap Granite counters, new fixtures and much more!

$539,000 Call Lisa

SUPERSTITION FOOTHILLS! GORGEOUS HOME AND POOL!

2626 SF, 4 bdrms, 3 baths , office, and bonus room! Gas fireplace, Corian counters, pebble tec pool and water slide! , built in SPA and built in outdoor kitchen! Soaring ceilings open staircase large open kitchen with center island. one bedroom on 1st floor! 3 car garage RV Gate and pavers! SPECTACULAR PROPERTY! Community Pool & spa too!

$450,000 call Lisa

SPECTACULAR CUSTOM BEAUTY IN GOLD CANYON ESTATES!

3272 sf, 4 bdrms, 3.5 baths 2.5 car gar. ! Views. high-end custom furniture and furnishings! high ceilings, granite counters and bar, stainless appliances, Travertine floors, and loaded with custom touches, fireplace and more! Back yard has easy care grass, built in BBQ, firepit and built in seating! Too much to list it all!

$634,900 Call Lori

SOME LOTS AND LAND FROM .27 AC TO 3.49 ACRES
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4630 AVENIDA CORAZON DE ORO .42 AC .....$89,000 - **SOLD**
4539 AVENIDA CORAZON DE ORO .69 AC....$125,000
4335 S EL CAMINO DEL BIEN 1.16 AC.....$149,900
4760 AVENIDA CORAZON DE ORO .65 AC...$159,000

MESA DEL ORO

6968 TUM TUM CT. APPX 1 AC.....$99,000 - **SOLD**
6399 E LAZY LANE 1.15 AC.....$189,000 - **SOLD**

GOLD CANYON

0 S MORNINGSIDE LANE 1.35 AC.....$99,000 - **SOLD**
EAGLE PASS 7000 SF.....$48,000 - **SOLD**
0 E VISTA DEL SOL 1.25 AC!.....$65,000 - **SOLD**
1.25 ACRES ON PRICKLY POINT.....$85,000 - **SOLD**
2.45 AC 0E OPEN SKY.....$159,000
YAQUI LANE .51 AC.....$189,000

GOLD CANYON EAST

9722 TREASURE PLACE .70 AC.....$129,000 - **SOLD**
9771 DEADSURE PLACE .70 AC.....$129,000

GOLDEN SPRINGS

5820 S ESTRELLA RD #76.....$28,000 - **SOLD**
.16 AC 10444 LA PALMA.....$30,000 - **SOLD**

KINGS RANCH ESTATES

10631 E MAVERICK TRAIL 1.5 AC....$123,000 - **SOLD**
10571 MAVERICK TRAIL 1.92 AC.....$149,900 - **SOLD**

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ON THE COVER

Peach-Faced Lovebirds by Lester Walker

DECEMBER **2020**

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Staring right into my lens by Gordon Cox

LOCAL EVENTS

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Submissions are due 10th of the month prior

editor@mansurdesign.com

Sunday, December 6th - GROOVIN' with Santa - 2pm till 4pm | Gold Canyon Executive Suites, 6589 S Kings Ranch Road. Come and GROOVE with Santa and enjoy hot cocoa and cookies. This is a FREE outdoor event.

DECEMBER 10-20 | Winter Wonderettes presented by Zao Theatre. See pg 13 for more information

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12th, 2020 - 9 AM TO 3 PM | ARTISTS OF THE SUPERSTITIONS HOLIDAY ART SHOW -The Holidays are coming, and it is that beautiful time of year for Art Lovers to view and select original, unique and juried art for the season or for yourself. Artists of the Superstitions invite you to a Fine Art Show to be held on the grounds of the Mountain View Lutheran Church. The show is offered free to the public. Please join us for this wonderful event.

The Mountain View Lutheran Church is located at 2122 S. Goldfield Rd., Apache Junction off Hwy 60. This is a indoor and outdoor event on the corner of Apache Trail and Goldfield Road. Artists are separated inside and outside so that you can practice social distancing while visiting. Hand sanitizer will be available, and masks are recommended. We are following guidelines to protect all of you and us. For more information; www.artistsofthesuperstitions.com

Saturday, December 12th - Free Drive Up Donuts Saturday! 8am. | Gold Canyon Executive Suites, 6589 S Kings Ranch Road.

AND ONWARD TO 2021

Events Continue at Boyce Thompson Arboretum, Check the complete event pages on their website at http://www.btarboretum.org/events or contact the Visitor's Center at 520-689-2723. You may also Email: info@btarboretum.org.

Exciting Activities year round at the Superstition Mountain Museum, Call 480 983-4888 or visit www.superstitionmountainmuseum.org for schedule of classes and events.

Visit Lost Dutchman State Park, Check the website www.azstateparks.com/lost-dutchman/ for a schedule of events and activities. Call 480-982-4485

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A.D.O.B.E. NEWS

GLENNWALP

A.D.O.B.E PRESIDENT

GREETINGS TO ALL ADOBE MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

"STILLE NACHT"

I suppose most of us have our favorite "thing" about Christmas. For me it was the excitement that occurred around our family's church life that permeated the air with exuberating joy. The people I associated with seemed a bit happier, kinder, more open to giving, and projected a sense of new found peace. It wasn't a big step for me to fall in love with and look forward to the Christmas Season and the associated singing of Christmas Carols. Especially uplifting was the age old favorite of many and me – "Silent Night."

It is alleged the song Silent Night had its beginnings in December, 1816. That is, when a young Austria priest, Father Joseph Mohr needed a song for his Christmas Eve service, set to a guitar, because the church organ was broken. The story goes that mice had eaten into the organ bellows causing its malfunction. Mohr, continues the story, had penned a poem two years before as he walked around a peaceful Austria Village on Christmas Eve but never set the poem to music. He needed that song now since the service was only a few hours away. Mohr anxiously told his close friend Franz Xavier Gruber – the church organist - about the poem. Gruber quickly put the song to music for a guitar –as Father Mohr requested, himself being a skilled guitarist - and the song was presented that night for the first time to those 1816 Christmas Eve parishioners in Oberndorf, Austria. Austria considers the song a national treasure and the song cannot be played or sung publicly until Christmas Eve. From there the song went - as we say in our contemporary computer world - viral. The song was picked up by two travelling folk singing groups, the Strassers and Rainers. Both groups included the song in their shows, spreading the song throughout the Austrian Zilllertal Valley, and the rest is – as they say – history.

I think we can all agree that 2020, with the crazy virus, was anything but peaceful. Regrettably, it appears the second wave of the virus is beginning to take its toll. Notwithstanding, I propose, in spite of the devastating destruction of the virus, that brings medical warfare not peace, it is incumbent on all of us to take the time to reflect on the goodness and beauty all around us here in beautiful Gold Canyon. The sky is still blue, the sun is still warm, the flora and fauna still alluring, and we still have the opportunity to grasp the peace of Christmas. Solemnly presented during the now famous radio broadcast of yesteryear (began in 1932 through 1968), the Breakfast Club, when it was Prayer Time, Host Don McNeill would state: "All over the nation, a moment of silent prayer, each in his own words, each in his own way, for a world united in peace, bow your hands and let us pray." May this likewise be our Christmas prayer this year 2020.

The ADOBE Board wishes each of you a most Blessed Christmas and a Joyous New Year. May each day for you be "calm and bright" filled with the peace that passes all understanding.

Glenn A. Walp

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AJHS STUDENT, DYLAN WALTERS, RECEIVES DONATED GUITAR

During October, Superstition Mountain Golf Course (SGMC) member, Michael Plante, MD, donated his Yamaha FG-411 acoustic guitar to Dylan Walters, a lucky student participant of the Lead Guitar program of Apache Junction High School.

Michael started playing guitar at the age of 12 but is no longer able to play his beloved Yamaha, which is in excellent condition. So, Mike asked for SMGC member Ray Cunningham's help in donating it to a worthy cause. Ray is Lead Guitar liaison for the Gold Canyon Arts Council and also supports its art and music education outreach program in local schools.

Ray contacted Karl Hermann, AJHS Lead Guitar Teacher of Record and Band Director, about Mike's desire to donate the guitar to a deserving student. Karl was delighted with the news and immediately suggested giving it to Dylan.

The Gold Canyon Arts Council sponsors six concerts each season featuring diverse professional artists. The contracted artists for each concert agree to conduct workshops, masterclasses, and performances in local schools in addition to their public concert, typically at five to ten schools.

The Arts Council and Lead Guitar, both non-profits, co-sponsor eight such programs at elementary and secondary schools along the Old West Highway, from Apache Junction to the San Carlos Apache Reservation. They teach student participants how to read music and play the guitar throughout the entire school year. Lead Guitar is headquartered in Tucson and sponsors more than 70 such programs in five states.

GOLD CANYON ARTS COUNCIL

Chuck Cuffaro, GCAC Publicity
charlescuffaro@gmail.com
513-608-0719

ALL MY RELATIONS:
Indigenous Thinking in Seven Generations with Rowdy Duncan

Who are your relations? Are they only the people you share blood or legal ties with, or could you expand your concept of relations further out into your community? Apache Junction Public Library is proud to host this free, interactive program, which will introduce you to the concept of "all my relations," or interconnectedness, a core concept of many indigenous groups. Explore our concept of responsibilities to each other, our society, and those who will come after us. In the process, you can improve your communication skills and learn to navigate cultural differences in all aspects of life.

This event will be hosted by Rowdy Duncan, full-time faculty at Phoenix College in the field of Communication, with an emphasis in Interpersonal Communication, Public Speaking, and Intercultural Communication. He has lead peer mentoring groups that educate youth about drug prevention, educational success, and college and career readiness. Rowdy completed director training from the Anytown/Ourtown programs and teaches young people and their leaders about power, privilege, equity, and inclusion.

This is a virtual event, and space is limited. There is no charge. Please visit ajpl.org or call (480) 474-8555 to register. "All My Relations" is made possible by the Friends of the Library of Apache Junction and Arizona Humanities.

Keep an eye out for the return of the library's Winter Lecture Series, which will be held virtually in the same format!

The city of Apache Junction invites and welcomes people of all disabilities to use our programs, sites and facilities. Any question about library services for people with disabilities can be answered by our Library ADA Coordinator (480) 474-8555, TTY 711, or ada@ajpl.org. Additional information may be found at www.ajcity.net/ada.

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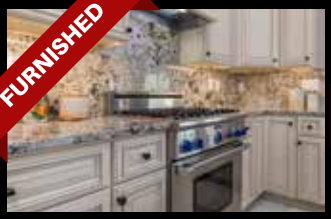
1859 sf, 2br, 2ba, 2cGar + FULLY FURNISHED, Newer Roof & HVAC, fenced yard & courtyard +more!



Superstition Foothills $415,000
1705 sf, 3br, 2ba, 2cGar + FULLY REMODELED with STUNNING new kitchen, baths, flooring + paint in & out!!

Mountainbrook Village $420,000
2212 sf, 3br, 2.5ba, 2cGar + Golf Lot & Amazing Mountain Views. Fully Furnished and a MUST SEE!

Superstition Foothills $450,000
1994 sf, 3br, 2ba, 3cGar + DEN and one of the best, PREMIUM MOUNTIN VIEW LOTS ever!! Must See!

Foothills @ Gold Canyon Rch $275,000
1686 sf, 3br, 2ba, 2cGar + Den & Mountain Views! Extended Patio, Plantation Shutters & Newer AC!

Foothills @ Gold Canyon Ranch $300,000
1450 sf, 3br, 2ba, 2cGar + Private Pool & Mountain Views , granite, stainless & updated bathrooms too!

Superstition Foothills $450,000
1938 sf, 3br, 2ba, 3cG + DEN & $75k Heated Diving Pool, Spa, Views, Amenities & Much More!

Superstition Foothills $489,900
2031 sf, 3br, 3ba, 3cG + Den & Mountain Views! Fully furnished, Open Floor Plan, heated pool/spa!

Quail Canyon - 1.345 Acres $149,500
WOW! Rare IMPROVED, private, cul-de-sac custom home lot w/ Elevated Golf & Double Mountain Views!!

Mountainbrook Village $CALL
1998 sf, 4br, 3ba, 3cGar with Casita! New Flooring & Paint, Courtyard, FP, Golf & Mountain Views ++++

Custom Home on 1.4 Acres $600,000
2157 sf, 3br, 2ba, 3cGar + Den, Pool, Furnished, View Deck, Fully Fenced Oasis & Stunning Mountain Views!

Canyon Estates $770,000
3867 sf, 4br, 3.5ba, 4.5cG on Dble Lot! Views, Resort-like backyard and loaded w/ upgrades. MUST SEE!

Did you know...

As of 2:17pm on 11/11/20, these are the GC Stats!

#of Active, Single Family Homes Under $400k...7
 # (Avg) Days on Mkt, SF Homes Under $400k.....7
# of October, Single Family Sales Under $400 ...31
#of Active, Single Family Listings $401-$500k...14
# of October, Single Family Sales $401-$500k....6
 # (Avg) Days on Mkt, SF Homes $401-$500k....16

Source: Cromford Report/ARMLS

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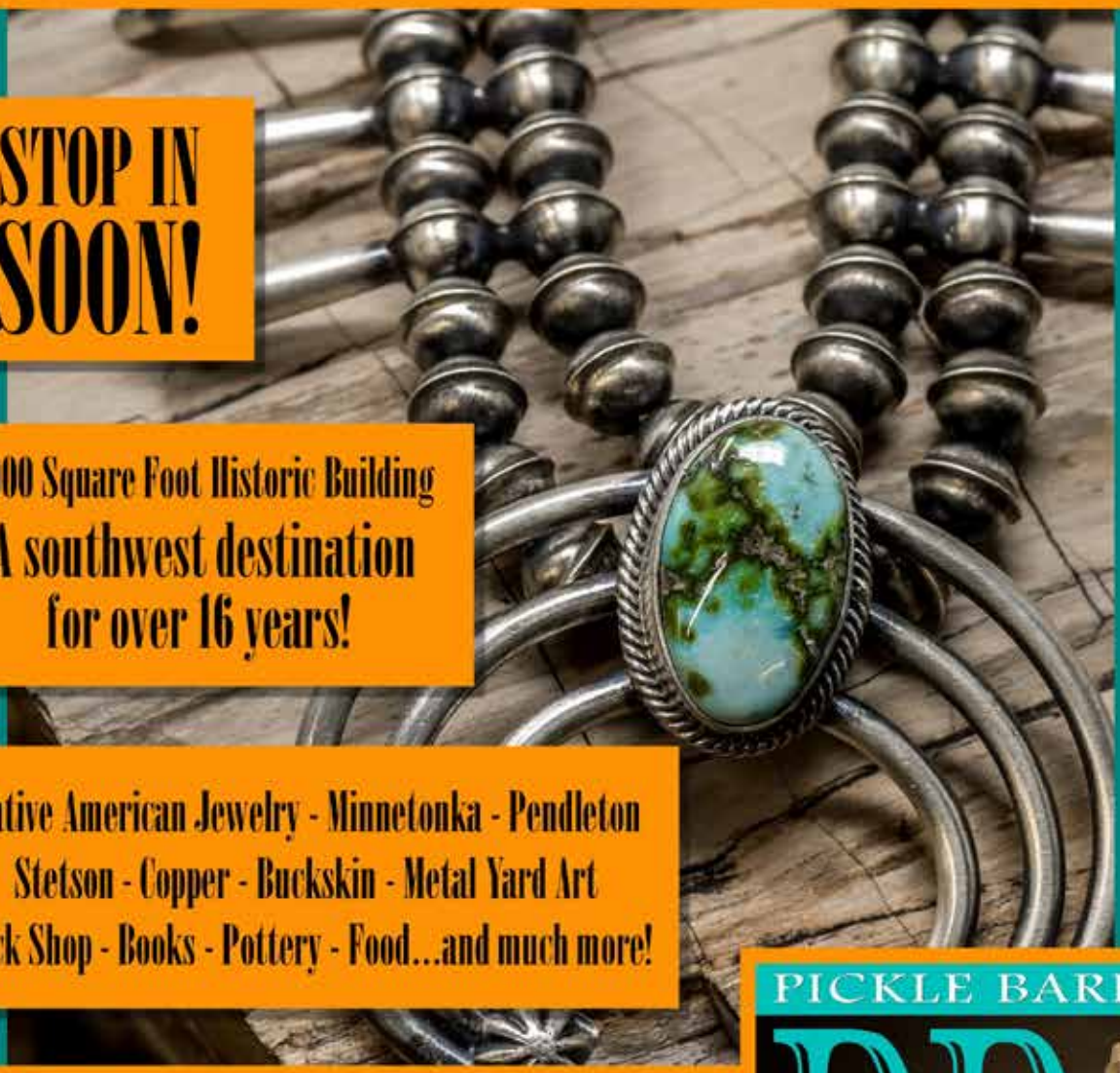

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2021 Lost Dutchman Marathon Races To Return as Virtual Events

Participate from Anywhere to Help Support Local Youth Charities

by Rick Hardina

Great news for the running and walking communities--the annual Lost Dutchman Marathon Races will return in February, 2021! But due to the ever-changing health challenges presented by the global COVID-19 pandemic, Lost Dutchman race officials have made the decision to evolve the 2021 events in to an all-virtual format. Race distances offered are:

Marathon, Half Marathon, 10K and 8K. Runners or walkers can complete their race distance in any location they choose. Main goals of 2021 Lost Dutchman Marathon officials are to provide a safe and positive race experience for everyone while at the same time being able to give back to the local youth community. Since the Lost Dutchman Marathon races inception in 2002, the non-profit events have donated more than $708,000 to various local youth organizations.

While race officials and the hundreds of local volunteers would love to see each and every runner and walker in person at the usual finish line in Apache Junction, they all realize at this time that health and safety issue are much more important. The team is therefore working hard to assure a rewarding race experience for everyone in several new and exciting ways!

This year's 20th anniversary goodie (swag) bag includes an amazing Lost Dutchman long sleeve tech shirt , a 2021 Lost Dutchman Medal, plus your personal bib number. These items will be shipped directly to your door! Alternatively all local registrants will have the chance to pick up their race packet in person at our Lost Dutchman Running and Fitness Expo--of course, with safety and social measures in place to keep everyone safe!

A few virtual race details include:

Complete your race anywhere between February 6 & 16

Register by January 23 to receive swag bag by February 6

Registration remains open through February 16

One fee covers any of the race distances

You choose the location for your walk or run

For more specific details and information, and to register for the 2021 Lost Dutchman Marathon Races please visit www.lostdutchmanmarathon.org.

Gold Canyon Garden Club

The Gold Canyon Garden Club is holding meetings virtually through the end of 2020. We enjoyed presentations on Christmas Cactus and Cactus and Succulent Container Gardens by our members. We hope to have outdoor meetings in the New Year, but will keep our website updated with our plans. You can contact us on our website goldcanyongc.com or our Facebook page, Gold Canyon Garden Club.

The Butterfly Garden is getting a face lift and haircut. The meeting in January will brainstorm and plan the new footprint of the Garden on Alameda near the Dinosaur Playground. We will enlist the Master Gardeners in the immediate area to hold a charrette, French for garden design, at the Garden and propose a planting design that is beautiful and will make people, pollinators and birds happy.

Our national organization, National Garden Clubs, Inc. is offering on line presentations regarding flower designing and gardening. It is a way to be learning something new every month.

We are looking forward to presentations on growing lavender and irises in and March. Early Winter in Arizona is a time to think of planting vegetables for harvest late Spring before the heat returns. Consider doing that for your own health benefit. Nothing tastes better than a homegrown tomato and February is the month to start raising them.

Happy New Year and happy gardening!!!

GOLD CANYON STRONG

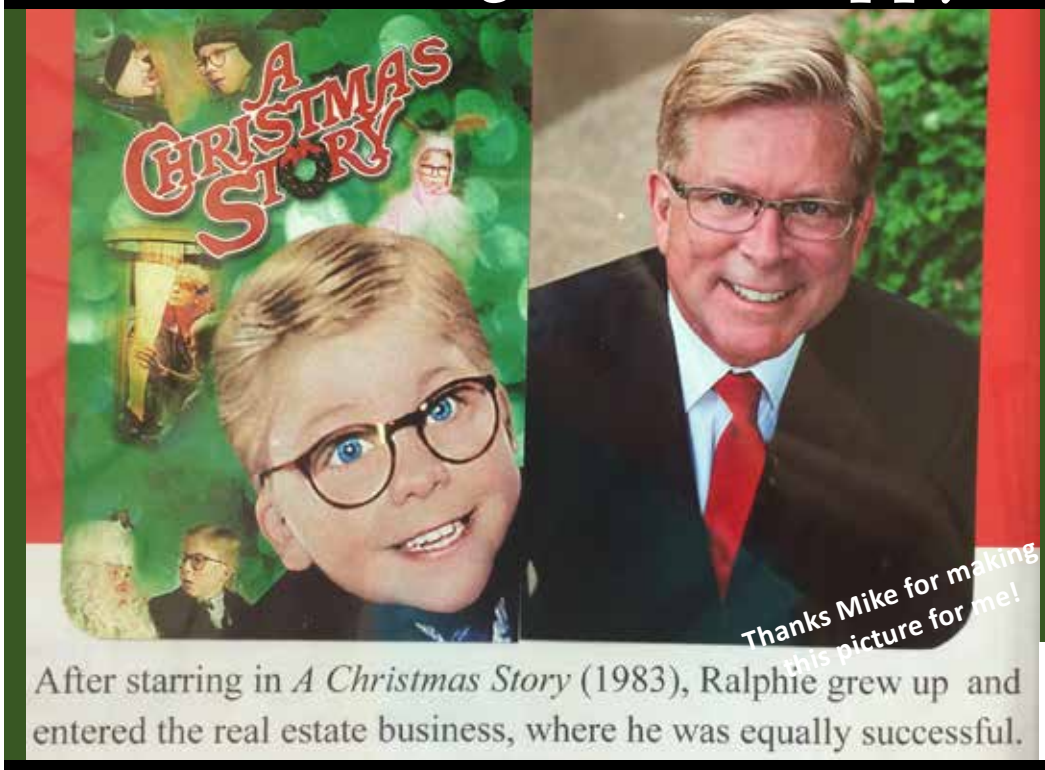
UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, December 6th - GROOVIN' with Santa - 2pm till 4pm at the Gold Canyon Executive Suites, 6589 S Kings Ranch Road. Come and GROOVE with Santa and enjoy hot cocoa and cookies. This is a FREE outdoor event. Wear athletic/dance shoes. We can provide chairs if you prefer to GROOVE seated. Remember IF YOU CAN MOVE YOU CAN GROOVE!

Saturday, December 12th - Free Drive Up Donuts Saturday!* 8am. Gold Canyon Executive Suites, 6589 S Kings Ranch Road. Making life a little more fun right now! Free Donuts and musical entertainment by Gold Canyon's Nancy Marie. Come early-when donuts are gone, they're gone. *max 4 donuts per vehicle.

Saturday, January 9th, 2021 - Walk For Wellness and Win. 10am. Healthy walking event starts at Gold Canyon Executive Suites, 6589 S Kings Ranch Road. Wear your comfy walking shoes, get your free backpack and fill it with prizes for every 1/4 mile you walk on S Kings Ranch Road. Check out https://goldcanyonstrong.wixsite.com/community to learn more.

Wishing You a Happy Holiday



After starring in *A Christmas Story* (1983), Ralphie grew up and entered the real estate business, where he was equally successful.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION - 480-924-5112 - zaotheatre.com
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Christmas Lost ... and Found

By Marcia Nelson

Christmas is coming,
but is the Grinch coming too?
We can't let that happen!
It's up to me and you.

The essence of Christmas
can't be taken away
by the fear and doubt
that is ever-present today.

We have to be able
To share peace and joy.
We have to remember
that fear is a ploy.

It controls our lives
in a negative way.
We hide behind masks
And have nothing to say.

So as Christmas approaches,
can we stand with the
"Whos"?
Can we visibly smile
and can we fill up those pews?

Yes, Christmas is coming,
let the church bells be ringing.
Bring back the joy
and bring back the singing!

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November Staff Picks

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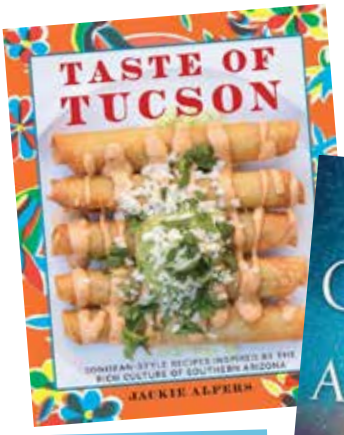

Cozy up to our November staff picks as the weather finally takes a turn for the crisp! Go to ajpl.org or call (480) 474-8555 to put any of these on hold.

Taste of Tucson by Jackie Alpers, recommended by Vicki

Alpers includes recipes and cooking tips from local chefs and culinary landmarks to craft a well- stocked Sonoran cookbook featuring regional treats, including the infamous Sonoran style hotdog and a copycat version of Lucky Wishbone's steak fingers. But leave room for a mouthwatering dark chocolate, coffee and fig concoction that had me reaching for my ramekins.

A Time for Mercy by John Grisham, published by Dell; recommended by Dennis

In his most recent legal thriller, John Grisham takes us back to Mississippi and the attorney Jake Brigance from "A Time To Kill." Jake finds himself defending a 16-year-old accused of murdering a deputy. The town wants a swift trial and the death penalty for the young boy. As with Grisham's other books, expect plot twists and great, complicated town dynamics.

The Weekend by Charlotte Wood, recommended by Diana

Three women in their seventies reunite for one last, life-changing weekend in the beach house of their late friend, Sylvie. They're practical, kind, loving, honest, and always there for each other – but during this first weekend without Sylvie that the stress and trials they experience without her take a toll on them, causing them to question what they had originally seen in each other's friendships. It's insightful, sometimes comical and an honest novel about women, their friendships and aging. I laughed. I cried a little and I found a bit of myself in this delightful story.

Straight On Till Morning: A Twisted Tale by Elizabeth J Braswell, recommended by Stephanie

In this Young Adult book, we follow Wendy's story instead of Peter Pan. She is older now and this tale does take a dark turn. Great read for classic Disney fans who are older now themselves.

Truly, Madly, Deeply by Karen Kingsbury, recommended by Kelley

By blending romance and family drama, Karen shows us that in the midst of great uncertainty and fear, the only way to live with passion, is truly, madly, deeply. In her unique style, Karen weaves uplifting and meaningful scripture throughout the story. I find her books to be truly heartfelt and touching.

Keep Moving by Maggie Smith, recommended by Livi

A quick, delightful read containing little pearls of wisdom!

Daring Greatly: How the Courage to Be Vulnerable Transforms the Way We Live, Love, Parent, and Lead by Brené Brown, recommended by Georgia

In Daring Greatly, Brown discusses her research that deals with shame and vulnerability and the connection of those entities to the human experience. The book is for everyone who comes under the category of human.

The Midnight Library by Matt Haig, recommended by Megan

Many of us contend with "what-ifs" in our lives – what if we had made different decisions and met different people? Matt Haig explores this idea with Nora Seed, who on the cusp of death finds herself in the Midnight Library, a place where every book is about her and represents a different choice she made. She can explore dozens or hundreds of potential alternate lives, but will any of them give her the desire and courage to live again?

FINANCIAL FOCUS

MATTRUPPERT

CONSIDER THESE YEAR-END FINANCIAL MOVES

We're nearing the end of 2020 – and for many of us, it will be a relief to turn the calendar page on this challenging year. However, we've still got a few weeks left, which means you have time to make some year-end financial moves that may work in your favor.

HERE ARE A FEW SUGGESTIONS:

- Add to your IRA. For the 2020 tax year, you can put in up to $6,000 to your traditional or Roth IRA, or $7,000 if you're 50 or older. If you haven't reached this limit, consider adding some money. You actually have until April 15, 2021, to contribute to your IRA for 2020, but the sooner you put the money in, the quicker it can go to work for you. Plus, if you have to pay taxes in April, you'll be less likely to contribute to your IRA then.
- Make an extra 401(k) payment. If it's allowed by your employer, put in a little extra to your 401(k) or similar retirement plan. And if your salary goes up next year, increase your regular contributions.
- See your tax advisor. It's possible that you could improve your tax situation by making some investment-related moves. For example, if you sold some investments whose value has increased, you could incur capital gains taxes. To offset these gains, you could sell other investments that have lost value, assuming these investments are no longer essential to your financial strategy. Your tax advisor can evaluate this type of move, along with others, to determine those that may be appropriate for your situation.
- Review your investment mix. As you consider your portfolio, think about the events of these past 12 months and how you responded to them. When COVID-19 hit early in the year, and the financial markets plunged, did you find yourself worrying constantly about the losses you were taking, even though they were just on "paper" at that point? Did you even sell investments to "cut your losses" without waiting for a market recovery? If so, you might want to consult with a financial professional to determine if your investment mix is still appropriate for your goals and risk tolerance, or if you need to make some changes.
- Evaluate your need for retirement plan withdrawals. If you are 72 or older, you must start taking withdrawals – technically called required minimum distributions, or RMDs – from your traditional IRA and your 401(k) or similar retirement plan. Typically, you must take these RMDs by December 31 every year. However, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Stimulus (CARES) Act suspended, or waived, all RMDs due in 2020. If you're in this age group, but you don't need the money, you can let your retirement accounts continue growing on a tax-deferred basis.
- Think about the future. Are you saving enough for your children's college education? Are you still on track toward the retirement lifestyle you've envisioned? Or have your retirement plans changed as a result of the pandemic? All of these issues can affect your investment strategies, so you'll want to think carefully about what decisions you may need to make.

Looking back – and ahead – can help you make the moves to end 2020 on a positive note and start 2021 on the right foot.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Edward Jones, Member SIPC

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~HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM ALL OF US AT SMILING DOG LANDSCAPES~

'Twas the Night Before Christmas
(with apologies to Clement Clarke Moore)

'Twas the night before Christmas in my Gold Canyon home,
Not a creature was buzzing, not even a realtor's phone.
The stockings were hung by the chiminea with care,
In hopes that Saint Nicholas soon would be there.
The snowbirds were nestled all snug in their beds,
While visions of hole-in-ones danced in their heads.
And Mama in her "not-tonight-nighty" and I in my C-PAP,
Had just settled our brains for a long winter's nap.
When out in the desert, there arose such a ruckus,
I sprang from the futon to see what the fuss was.
Away to the slider I flew like "The Flash,"
Tore open the screen door, which made a loud crash.
The moon on the breast of the neatly-raked gravel,
Illuminated events that were about to unravel.
When what did my wondering blood-shot eyes see,
But two javelinas, no make that count three.
With a lead old sow, so portly and quick,
I knew in a moment she was NO St. Nick.
More rapid than eagles, the hungry hogs came,
The sow snorted and clacked and called them by name:
"Now Porky! Now Piggy!
Now Rat-face and Nixon!
On, Pork-chop! On, Runty!
On Pee Wee and Dixon!"
As dry leaves that before the wild monsoon fly,
When they meet with an obstacle, mount to the sky.
So over the mounds and boulders they flew,
With hunger for pansies and geraniums too.
Then I heard on the patio (not on the roof,)
The prancing and pawing of each little hoof.
As I poked out my head to gander around,
Out from the bushes she came with a bound.
She was dressed all in bristles, from tail to her snout,
And the odor that followed could knock buzzards out.
A half-eaten flower hung from her jaw,
Pieces of dandelion dripped from her maw.
Her tusks-- how they twinkled! Her warts, so scary!
Her cheeks bulged with my tomatoes (variety cherry!)
Her droll little mouth was drawn up in a grin,
And I knew what trouble my garden was in.
The stumps of my roses held tight in her teeth,
As she chomped and chewed and swallowed each leaf.
The others that followed were smaller and mean,
Miniature versions of Mom, green munching ma-chines.
She was smelly and grumpy, a foul-natured old elf,
And I screamed like a girl in spite of myself.
A wink of her eye and a twist of her head,
Soon gave me to know I had all things to dread.
They spoke not a word, but went straight to their work,
And eyeing my flowers ripped them up with a jerk.
Roots, stems, and petals, they swallowed them all,
Wiping out the garden I had nursed all through Fall.
She stole back to darkness, calling back with a grunt,
And they all disappeared (as well as the runt.)
But I heard her exclaim as they dove out of sight—
"Happy Christmas to all, we'll be back another night!"

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Corky Reed of Gold Canyon with Champ, a rescued Labrador puppy she is fostering through a leg amputation and recovery. Champ will adjust to his 3-legged life and become a loving and playful companion for his adoptive family.

RESCUE ANIMALS:

UNSUNG HEROES WHO NEED OUR SUPPORT

By Betty Bowes

The third annual FOR THE ANIMALS (FTA) "giftwrap for rescue" fundraiser will be missing paper and bows this year, but support donations are still greatly needed and appreciated.

Sue Woodward, spokesperson for the Gold Canyon animal rescue and recovery group, says, "Our giftwrapping event at the yoga studio/visitors center on Kings Ranch Road has been hugely supported by local residents in the past. It's unfortunate that COVID has forced us to cancel it, especially since our rescued dogs and cats have brought such much-needed joy to their new families during this pandemic. Rescue animals have truly been unsung heroes in helping people battle loneliness, isolation, and depression. They will curl up and watch TV with you, get you out walking in the neighborhood, give you a breath of fresh air playing ball toss in the park. They make wonderful companions, and the need for funds to cover the spay/neuter and medical bills to make them available for fostering and adoption is greater than ever."

But all is not lost. Thanks to Sue and Mike Shaffer, owners of The Live It Well Place and home of the Gold Canyon Visitors Center, a donation drop box will be available there for FTA donations throughout the holiday season. Look for the FOR THE ANIMALS sign in front of 6607 S. Kings Ranch Road. Donations may be made Monday through Saturday between 10 am and 2 pm at the Visitors Center.

Donations may also be mailed to *FOR THE ANIMALS*, 10502 E. Open Sky Drive, Gold Canyon, 85118. **FTA is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit (Tax ID #20-5641648).** And please consider making FTA your charity of choice when you shop FRYs and Amazon. Go to www.smile.amazon.com and enter our tax number and/or go to www.frysfood.com/account/ create and enroll in the community rewards program by entering our number AY 434. There is no cost to you and it is ongoing support that really adds up. Your help can be "heroic" in so many ways!

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MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR

As 2020 comes to an end we would like to thank all of our wonderful clients for another fantastic year! We hope and pray that 2021 brings an end to this virus and we find peace throughout this beautiful country!

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year to all!

by Sue Shaffer

Have you always thought that 20/20 vision is perfect? In essence perfect vision has nothing to do with how far our eyes can focus without assistance. Perfect vision is all in how we see the world, the present moment, the only moment where you ever truly live life.

20/20 is normal vision and is commonly used as a point of reference when measuring visual acuity. The numbers come from the Snellen chart, published in 1862, which is an eye chart that measures a person's visual acuity.

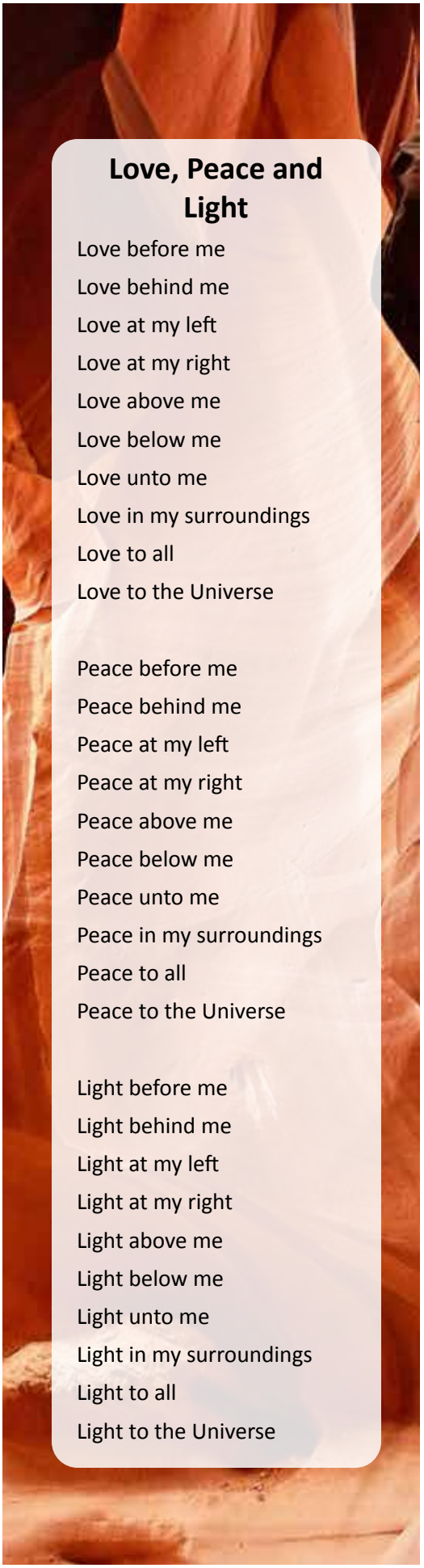
Hind Sight - The first use of the phrase in print (that I could find) comes from a newspaper called The Van Nuys News, February 1949. There is a part in it that reads: "Most people's hindsight is 20/20." The phrase hindsight is 20/20 means looking back at a situation or an event and having a clearer understanding of it and how things could have been done better. However, hindsight is not always 20/20, it allows that we are sometimes wiser in retrospect. While that is often true, it is not some kind of scientific law of perception. When you look back at something in the past, you have access to a lot more information — you can calmly assess the context and the entire sequence of events leading up to the conclusion. The fact is that no matter how much you think about the past or wish it were different, it will never change. Once you have accepted this fact, you no longer have the need to spend time wishing the past was different and can instead use that time to live fully in the present moment.

Fore Sight - The future is coming towards you, second by second, hour by hour, day by day. Sometimes it works out exactly as we want it to, but often the future is always different to how we imagine it. No matter how much time you spend worrying or thinking about the future, you are not going to be able to predict it (although sometimes by pure luck it will happen as you want it to). By accepting the fact that the future is unpredictable, you can enjoy your time and focus your energy in the present, prepare yourself as best you can for the future and wait for what tomorrow brings instead of spending your time worrying about what will happen.

Present Sight - The best way to get the most enjoyment out of life is to spend as much time as possible in the present moment. It's okay to think about the past every now and then and it is okay to dream about the future, as long as you realize that the only time you will ever have is right NOW. When you are in the present moment you have access to your full potential. There is no past to limit yourself to historic results and limitations and there is no future that paralyzes you with fear when thinking of possible outcomes.

When you live in the present moment you are free and anything is possible. The Live it Well Place in Gold Canyon is now offering 'In the Open' outdoor mindful movement classes in partnership with the Gold Canyon Golf Resort. Details: www.liveitwellaz.com

Namaste, The light within me honors the light within you.



Love, Peace and Light

Love before me
Love behind me
Love at my left
Love at my right
Love above me
Love below me
Love unto me
Love in my surroundings
Love to all
Love to the Universe

Peace before me
Peace behind me
Peace at my left
Peace at my right
Peace above me
Peace below me
Peace unto me
Peace in my surroundings
Peace to all
Peace to the Universe

Light before me
Light behind me
Light at my left
Light at my right
Light above me
Light below me
Light unto me
Light in my surroundings
Light to all
Light to the Universe

DIANNE OPHELIA COLSON, ESQ

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4 REASONS WHY THE ELECTION WON'T DAMPEN THE HOUSING MARKET

A Presidential Election has a major impact on many aspects of life in this country, but the residential real estate market will not be one of them.

Analysts will try to measure the impact possible changes in regulations might have on housing, the effect of a possible first-time buyer program, and any number of other situations based upon policy changes, should there be a new administration.

The housing market, however, will remain strong for four reasons:

1. Demand Is Strong among Millennials

The nation's largest generation began entering the housing market last year as they reached the age to marry and have children - two key drivers of homeownership.

2. Mortgage Rates Are Historically Low

All-time low interest rates are driving demand across all generations. Strong demand created by this rate drop has countered other economic disruptions (e.g., pandemic, recession, record unemployment).

In addition, Freddie Mac just forecasted mortgage rates to remain low through next year:

"From the third quarter of 2020 through the end of 2021, we forecast mortgage rates to remain unchanged at 3%."

3. Prices Continue to Appreciate

The continued lack of supply of existing homes for sale coupled with the surge in buyer demand has experts forecasting strong price appreciation over the next twelve months.

4. History Says So

Though it's true that the market slows slightly when it's a Presidential election year, the pace returns quickly. Here's an explanation as to why from the Homebuilding Industry Report by BTIG:

"….the economy, jobs, interest rates and consumer confidence all have far more meaningful roles in the home purchase decision than a Presidential election result in the months that follow."

Bottom Line

The outcome of the Presidential election will have a major impact on many sectors of the economy, however, as Matthew Speakman, an economist at Zillow, explained last week:

"While the path of the overall economy is likely to be most directly dictated by coronavirus-related and political developments in the coming months, recent trends suggest that the housing market – which has basically withstood every pandemic-related challenge to this point – will continue its strong momentum in the months to come."

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THE TOP QUESTIONS EVERYONE SHOULD ASK BEFORE RENOVATING A HOME

There are a lot of people who are looking to improve the home in which they live. One of the top ways to do this is to renovate the building; however, it is also important for everyone to make sure they know exactly what they are doing before they get started. There are several questions that everyone should ask before they start a home renovation project.

Is The Home Worth Renovating?

One of the top reasons why people renovate a home is that they think this is going to increase the value of the home. While this is certainly possible, everyone has to run the numbers and make sure they are either going to recoup their investment when they sell the home or that they are going to be in the home for a long time before they sell it. If the home is worth renovating, then it is fine to proceed.

What Is The Budget On The Renovation Project?

Next, it is also important for everyone to know what the budget is one the renovation project. Remember that there are always going to be expenses that are not foreseen, so be sure to include some room at the top in case the contractors come asking for a budget increase. They almost always do.

What Are The Offers On The Home Renovation Project?

Finally, it is also important to collect multiple offers. Talk to designers, contractors, and architects. Collect a few referrals. Then, talk to all of these individuals and see how much money it is going to cost to complete the project. This is one of the top ways that everyone is able to save money on their home renovation projects and make sure they get exactly what they asked for when the project started.

Answer These Questions Before Starting A Home Renovation Project

By planning ahead of time, everyone is able to plan accordingly, making sure they know what they are doing before the project gets started. When homeowners take the time to plan a home renovation project, they increase the chances of the project being a success. This includes not only an aesthetically pleasing project but a wise financial investment as well. Need mire information? call 480-221-7922

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IN THE KITCHEN WITH MARSHA

MARSHADORRIS

CHRISTMAS MICE & CANDY SNOWMEN

These adorable mice and snowman are always a big hit at Christmas. I put them on my cookie trays and in each packaged cookie box I deliver to my family and friends! They are easy and fun to make and are very tasty!!

Christmas Mice

- Oreo Cookies
- Melting Chocolates - melted
- Chocolate Kisses – unwrapped
- Sliced Almonds
- Maraschino Cherries with Stems(drained and dried off)
- Royal icing or buttercream icing

Take an Oreo cookie and hold it on its side. Then take a small spatula and run it down between the cream and the cookie to separate it. Save the plain half a cookie for another project. After separating the number of mice you want to make, take a maraschino cherry and dip it in the melted chocolate to cover. Set it on the white cream of the cookie and adhere one chocolate kiss to it. Add 2 sliced almonds for the ears. Hold in place for a few seconds. Continue on until you have completed the number of mice you want to make. In a two small bowls, color icing red and green. Using 3 piping bags, put a tip 2 in each of two of the bags and add white icing in one and red icing in the other. In the third bag, use a leaf tip and put green icing in it. You can purchase bags and tips at Walmart, Michael's or Hobby Lobby.

Put white eyes on the chocolate kiss, pipe 2 holly leaves on the white cream by the mouse's body and add 3 red berries on the leaves and add a red dot for his nose! And there you have it!! A cute, tasty Christmas mouse!

Snowmen Candies

- Circle Shaped Pretzels (I get them at Safeway)
- Fruit Roll-Ups – for the scarfs
- White Chocolate – Melted
- Black Edible Marker (or royal icing)
- Mini Chocolate Chips
- Royal icing (colored orange for noses)

Use a tray and line it with wax paper. Take the white melted chocolate and put into a piping bag or zip lock bag and make a small cut at the point or corner of the bag. Put a dab of chocolate on the pretzel to hold 2 pretzels together. Then fill both pretzel circles with chocolate taking care not to overflow over the pretzel. While still wet, add mini chocolate chips for the eyes and buttons. Continue doing this until all snowmen are made. Then take the edible marking pen (or black royal icing) and put dots for the mouth on the dry chocolate. Use the orange royal icing and put in a pastry bag and cut a little off of the tip and pipe a nose on each snowman. Open a package of the Fruit Roll Ups and cut them about in half so they are not too wide. Measure how long to wrap around and fold over to make a scarf. Cut as many as you need. Handle the snowman carefully while you wrap them around his neck. The kids especially love these snowmen treats!!!

Cream Cheese Cranberry Orange Bread

This sweet cream cheese bread compliments the tart cranberries! It is so amazingly soft and tender, plus quick and easy to make. Try a big slice with butter and a mug of coffee or for a quick snack in the afternoon! Perfect for the Christmas holiday season!

- 1 cup butter softened
- 1 8 oz package cream cheese, softened
- 1 ½ cups sugar
- 1 ½ tsp vanilla
- 4 eggs
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 ½ tsp baking powder
- ½ tsp salt
- 3 cups cranberries - fresh or frozen
- ½ cup chopped pecans (optional)(I use fresh)
- 1 to 1 ½ Tablespoons of grated orange zest (or to taste)

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

By hand in a large mixing bowl, cream together butter, cream cheese, sugar, vanilla and orange zest. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition. In another bowl combine flour, baking powder and salt. Slowly mix into wet batter until well combined. Fold in cranberries and nuts.

Spoon batter into two greased 9" x 5" loaf pans and bake at 350 for about 45 minutes or one 9"x5" loaf pan for about 60 minutes or until toothpick comes out clean and bread is lightly browned. I used one 9" x 5" loaf pan and three 3" x 5 ½" mini pans. Bake mini pans for 30 minutes. All ovens are different. Check bread with a toothpick until it comes out clean and do not let it get over browned. Cool in pans for about 15 minutes and then take out and let cool on cooling rack until completely cooled. Wrap in plastic wrap and keep on counter for a couple days or in the refrigerator for longer storage. It also freezes well. Slice and eat as is, or it is delicious with butter on it!!

From Julie's Eats & Treats/modified by Marsha
Any questions or comments, email me at Marsha.Dorris.Realtor@gmail.com

WHAT YOUR NEIGHBORS ARE SAYING
If you are looking to buy or sell a house in the Valley, give Christan a call. She will do everything she can by sharing her knowledge of properties for sale, the communities they are in, provide great service and expertise. We believe you'll find it impossible not to have FUN while working with her and may have a feeling of letdown at closing as you will miss seeing her.
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We first met Christan at an open house and instantly felt a bond with her and chose her as our realtor. From start to finish she was the best! Very professional, caring, and her eye for detail was above and beyond. She has a great personality too. We highly recommend her!
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When we talk about men's hormones, we often think first of testosterone. But did you know that high estrogen levels can also play a significant role in men's health?

While we may think of estrogen as a "female" hormone, men do naturally produce it (just as women also produce testosterone). If the estrogen levels in a man get too high, it can lead to a number of health problems and unwanted symptoms.

So where do these high estrogen levels come from?

The causes can vary. One factor is age—estrogen levels rise naturally as men get older. Obesity can be another cause because additional fat can trigger chemical transformations of testosterone to estrogen. The use of some prescription drugs and consuming certain plant-based supplements and many meat and dairy products can contribute to higher estrogen, as well. Whatever the causes, high estrogen can lead to a range of problematic symptoms.

Symptoms of High Estrogen

Some conditions that may be affected by high estrogen in men are:

- Enlarged prostate (BPH)
- Enlargement of breast tissue (gynecomastia)
- Erectile dysfunction
- Infertility
- Inflammation
- Moodiness and irritability
- Depression

Maintaining a healthy testosterone to estrogen ratio may also be protective against prostate cancer.

Detection and Treatment

If a patient has symptoms of an enlarged prostate, a PSA blood test is an important screening tool to rule out the possibility of prostate cancer. If the PSA test falls within the normal range there is still much that can be done to identify causes and treat problematic symptoms.

Testing for proper hormone levels is the first step in a treatment protocol. One very effective laboratory test is a salivary hormone panel. This is a simple test that can be collected at home and mailed off to the laboratory for processing. The results of this test reveal extensive information about levels of testosterone, estrogen, and other important hormones that help your health care provider specifically target your problems.

If laboratory tests reveal an imbalance in estrogen and testosterone levels, there are some relatively simple and inexpensive treatments that can be used.

Certain natural supplements can target the prostate to help reduce swelling and promote urinary health. There are other supplements that can help the liver metabolize and decrease the amount of excess estrogen in the body. Using a homeopathic form of testosterone is a safe way to boost testosterone levels, if needed.

Once a patient has been on this type of protocol for three to six months, he should have lower estrogen levels that lead to an improvement in conditions. Patients often report an increase in energy, less inflammation, improved urinary function, a reduction in breast size and less irritability and mood changes.

Remember, men, your hormones count, too! Take care of them and they'll take care of you!

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PHOTOGRAPHY FROM AROUND THE AREA

We want to highlight **YOUR PHOTOS**! Email me at *editor@mansurdesign.com.*

LIMIT 2 PHOTOS PER PERSON.

Backyard Views by Kelly Cunningham

Turk's Head at Sunrise by Glen Fullmer

ME?... BY DENISE MARCH

Superstition Rainbow by Rick Hardina

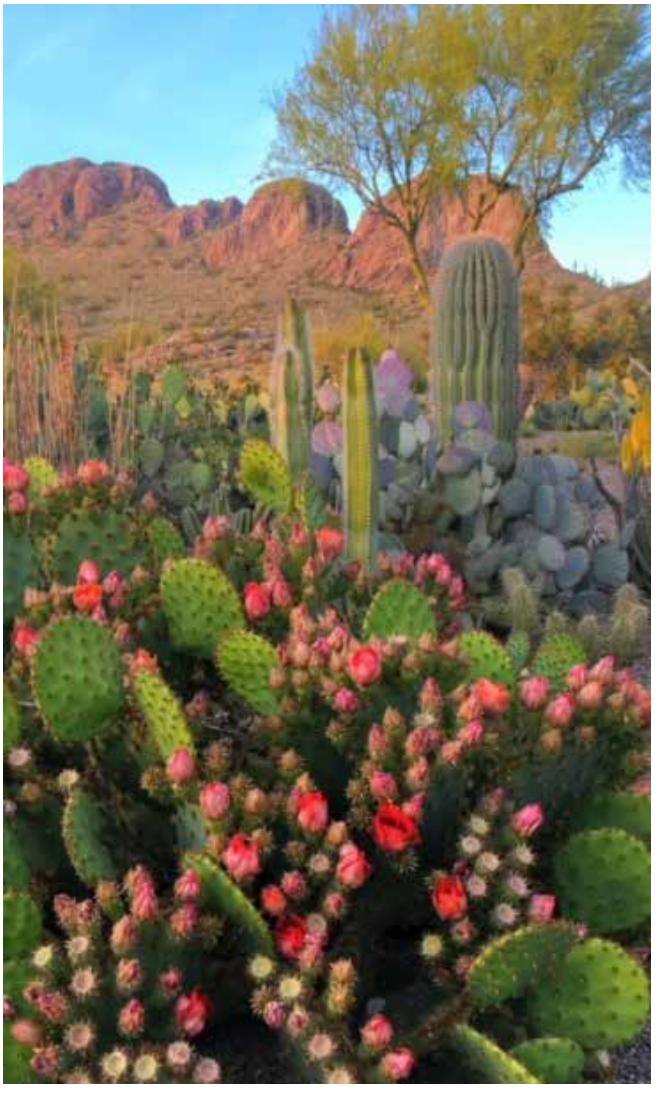
Perfectly Perched by Leona Speidel

Howling Coyote by Libby Wade

Floating over the Superstitions by Lori Turnley

My recent visitor by Jerry Jordan

Desert Friends by Lori Turnley



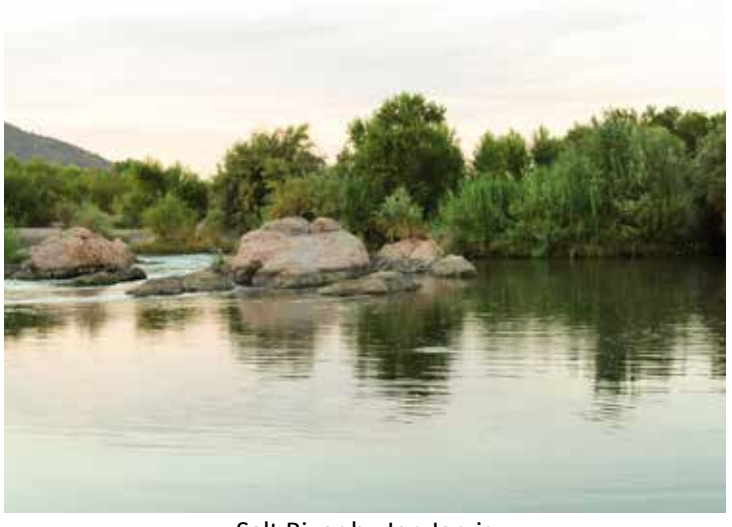
Dinosaur Mountain by Becky Briggs

Historic Boyer Cabin, in a very isolated area just outside of the Salome Wilderness NW of Roosevelt Lake. The cabin was built in the 1890's and was a working ranch up until the 1950's. Photo by Dave Leach

Desert bighorn on Peralta Trail by Dan Hallemeyer

Bull along the peralta road by the Collins Family

Cardinal By Ron Ellis



Salt River by Jen Jarvis

Peralta trail from inside Geronimo's Cave by Brian Ericson

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